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CLAVERING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for I925.

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GENERAL STATISTICS. Area 2246.486 acres.
Population I90I, I975; I9II, I499; I92I, I444; I925, I438.
Physical Features. On undulating ground rising towards the north from the Stour valley. Sub-soil chiefly boulder clay with chalk underlying at about I30 feet, except in the Stour valley where the chalk drops to 47I feet below the surface.

The number of inhabited houses in I92I was 4I0.
Rateable Value. Buildings £3360.I7.6 Land £II88.5.0. The produce of a Id. rate is £I0.I6.9

The chief occupations are agriculture, cocoa fibre matting and mat making, horsehair hackling and drawing and horsehair weaving.

VITAL STATISTICS. The number of births registered was I7. Birth rate per I000 in I92I, 22.I6; I922, I9.37; I923, I4.54; I924, I0.39; I925, II.82. The number of deaths was 20. Death rate per I000; I92I, 9.00; I922, II.77; I923, I4.54; I924, I0.I5; I925, I3.9I.

There have not been any causes of sickness or invalidity of special note. The conditions of occupation and environment are generally healthy.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION. Cases of tuberculosis are dealt with in the County Sanatorium or at Papworth Hall Tuberculosis Colony, Cambridgeshire. There are not any maternity or children's hospitals in the district and provision is not made for cases of fever. Small-pox cases are dealt with under the County Scheme in the hospital at Great Barton.

Institutional Provision is not made for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the area.

There are not any ambulance facilities of any kind.

There are also not any clinics or treatment centres.

The Public Health staff of the Council consists of the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector. The M.O.H. is a part-time officer and the S.I. performs other duties as Surveyor, Collector, Waterworks Manager and Assistant Overseer. The Sanitary Inspector is certificated by the Sanitary Institute. Moieties of their salaries as Sanitary Officers are contributed under the Public Health Acts.

General nursing in the home is provided for by the Cavendish and Glemsford District Nursing Association. The County Council subsidize the Association in respect of the District Nurse acting in midwifery cases. Provision is not made for nursing infectious cases. One midwife practises in the area.

WATER SUPPLY. The usual constant supply has been maintained throughout the year. Further connections have been made to two new houses and a workshop. The houses and premises supplied now number 34I. The average consumption per head per day for all purposes is 6.7 gallons. Each separate owner is required to convey the water directly to each house or to provide a standpipe for the use of a number of houses. The number of dwelling-houses supplied is 326; the number of dwelling-houses within range of public standpipes is 4; houses within the area of supply but having supplies of their own and not connected with the main number 46 and the number of houses outside the area of the public supply is 46. The proportion of the population supplied from the Waterworks is about 80 per cent. The water supply alike to those houses which are within the area of the public supply, as to those without, is derived from shallow wells, generally speaking without any precautions being taken to guard against pollution other than covering the well and erecting a pump. The public water supply

is of great organic purity. It comes from the chalk from a bore-hole 620 feet deep in the Stour valley. The presence of .36 parts of iron to 100,000 parts of water occasionally makes it alarming in appearance. This could be altered by aerating the water as it comes from the bore tube, allowing it to settle in a tank for three days and pumping therefrom into the service reservoir. A further disadvantage is that the rising main is also used as a distributing main. No analysis has been made for 19 years; at that time the total hardness per imperial gallon was 28.5 degrees and after boiling 10 degrees.

RIVERS AND STREAMS. There appears to be an entire absence of the pollution of rivers and streams.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. Public sewers are available for most of the houses in the more populated parts of the area. The greater part of these sewers have been laid since the formation of the Urban District. They discharge into three ditches which are periodically cleaned out. This (together with the quantity of water running down them from springs, land drainage and road water) is sufficient to prevent any pollution of the main rivers, the Glen and Stour, into which they ultimately discharge.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. The Council take every opportunity without entering upon a campaign, of doing away with privy cesspools. Where any of these are found to be in a state of disrepair and are too near dwelling-houses the order is given to convert them to the pail system. During the year the following changes took place:-

Number of privy cesspools abolished	2
" new pail closets	1
" " fresh-water water closets.	6
" " hand-flushed " "	1

The Closet Accommodation at the end of the year was as below:-

Number of privy closets with fixed receptacles	130
" " " moveable "	300
" water closets with constant supply	43
" " " waste or hand-flushed	6
	479

SCAVENGING. There are not any arrangements made for the removal and disposal of house refuse, the cleansing of earth closets, etc.. Although urban in name the district is rural in character and if any house has not sufficient garden ground of its own there is generally a near-by allotment upon which domestic waste may conveniently be buried.

GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTIONS have been made from time to time, number 180. Six informal written notices were served during the year, two dealing with general structural defects, three with drainage and one in relation to a bakehouse. A part of the structural defects remains to be completed, the drainage and the work in regard to the bakehouse have been done. In thirty cases verbal notices were sufficient for other defects to be remedied. It was not found necessary to serve any statutory notices.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES. There are three licensed slaughterhouses in the district, and owing to the Meat Regulations Order they are under constant supervision. They are all in good order.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION. Disinfection was carried out at one house after a case of tuberculosis of the lungs.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. One old factory formerly fitted up to make coconut fibre mats has been re-opened during the year as a workshop where horsehair hackling and drawing are done. One hair-cloth weaving workshop has been closed. There are now four factories and twenty-one workshops. Two notices from H.M. Inspector of Factories were received with reference to the provision of means of escape in case of fire in respect of two workshops where more than 40 persons were employed in each. The question is still under consideration.

BAKEHOUSES. There are five. In one case the occupier was called upon to limewash. This was done. The others were found in order.

SMOKE ABATEMENT. Action under this heading has not been and is not likely to be necessary.
PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS which can be controlled by Byelaws or Regulations. There are not any of these.
SCHOOLS. The Public Elementary Schools are well supplied with water both for drinking purposes from the Council's mains, and for washing purposes from elevated tanks of rainwater collected from the school building roofs. The drainage is efficient and the closet accommodation on the conservancy system is ample and well maintained.
HOUSING. There is a shortage of houses in the district but it is not acute. Measures are not in contemplation to meet the shortage. The population is nearly stationary, the tendency being to diminish rather than to increase.
OVERCROWDING. There are isolated cases but it is not extensive. There are five applicants for Council houses on the Council's waiting list, two from outside and three from persons in the district who are already in possession of houses. Action in regard to overcrowding was not taken during the year.
FITNESS OF HOUSES. The general standard of housing is low. The chief defects are; the absence of a damp course, porous brick floors, the lack of sinks or other drainage within the house, the water supply outside, the back yards unpaved, windows not made to open and no proper food store. Many houses are also without an oven. This list serves to indicate the general character of the defects found to exist. Alongside of these are to be found a carelessness and an untidyness in the disposal of house refuse. This is however not so common as might be expected when it is remembered that for generation after generation people have been brought up among such surroundings. One difficulty in remedying defects lies in the well-known character of a certain class of tenant. He perhaps is dirty, careless or a bad rentpayer, and the landlord is not encouraged to keep the house in good repair. Formerly, the landlord's remedy against such a tenant was a week's notice to quit. That simple expedient is now denied him.

There are not any bye-laws respecting housing in the district.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

One house has been closed by the owner to ensure privacy on his own premises and because it needed extensive repairs to make it habitable.

Number of new houses erected during the year:-
(a) Total (including numbers given separately under(b)) 2
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts 0

I. Unfit dwelling-houses.
Inspections --
(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 20
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 3
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 0

2. Remedy of defects without service of formal notices.
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their officers 3

3. Action under Statutory Powers.
A. Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act 1925
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices

were served requiring repairs 0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices
(a) By owners 0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close 0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.
I. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices

C. Proceedings under sections II, I4 and I5 of the Housing Act I925.
(I) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders 0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit 0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 0
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 0

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS. There are five registered retail purveyors of milk and four registered cowkeepers, dairymen and wholesale purveyors of milk, three persons being registered under both headings. The registration of all has been continued. Not any licenses have been granted for the sale of milk under special designations. Action in regard to tuberculous milk or cattle has not been necessary.

MEAT INSPECTION has been carried out periodically and specially in accordance with the Public Health (Meat) Regulations I924. Arrangements for marking the meat have not been made. The number of private slaughterhouses in use in the area at the dates mentioned is as below:-

	In I920	In January I925	In December I925
Registered	I	0	0
Licensed	0	3	3
Total	I	3	3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. The prevalence of these diseases is shown in the following table:-

	I920	I92I	I922	I923	I924	I925
Encephalitis Lethargica	I	-	-	-	-	-
Infantile Paralysis	-	-	-	3	-	I
Malaria	I	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	I	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	I	-	-	-
Puerperal Septicaemia	-	-	I	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	I	I	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	I	-	I
Anthrax	I	-	-	I	-	-

There were not any cases of trench fever or dysentery during the six years.

Diphtheria antitoxin and anthrax serum are kept ready for use by the Medical Officer of Health.

The Schick and Dick tests have not been used as Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever cases have been limited to one and two respectively since I9I9.

Pathological and bacteriological specimens are sent for examination to the County Medical Officer of Health, Bury St. Edmunds.

No vaccinations or revaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small-pox Prevention) Regulations I917.

With very few exceptions since I9I9 (when the epidemic was widespread and the disease of a very severe nature) cases of influenza have been mild; two deaths in I922 and one in I924.

Measles, whooping-cough and sore throats have affected a fair number of children but there have been no deaths from these diseases.

Deaths from cancer have occurred as below:-

	I920	I92I	I922	I923	I924	I925
Deaths	I	0	2	2	2	2

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) during the year I925.

Disease	Total Cases notified	Total Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Infantile Paralysis	I	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during I925.

	New Cases		Deaths	
Age Periods	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
20-25	I	-	-	-
35-45	I	-	I	-
	2	-	I	-

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations I925 or under section 62 of the Public Health Act I925.